

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) Steam iron (1) having a heating soleplate (2), a steam chamber (3), a part (8) having multiple functions constituting at the same time a heat shield and the skirt (85) of the iron, characterized in that the part (8) having multiple functions constitutes at least in part the steam chamber (3) above the soleplate (2).

2. (Original) Steam iron according to claim 1, having a water reservoir (4), characterized in that the part (8) with multiple functions constitutes the bottom of the water reservoir (4).

3. (Original) Steam iron according to claim 1 characterized in that the part (8) having multiple functions is of heat resistant plastic.

4. (Original) Steam iron according to claim 3 characterized in that the plastic of the multifunction part (8) is a polyester or a polysulfone.

5. (Currently amended) Steam iron according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~claim 4 characterized in that the skirt of the iron constitutes the walls of the steam chamber (3).

6. (Currently amended) Steam iron according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~claim 5 characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).

7. (New) Steam iron according to claim 4 characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).

8. (New) Steam iron according to claim 3 characterized in that the skirt of the iron constitutes the walls of the steam chamber (3).

9. (New) Steam iron according to claim 8  
characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact  
with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).

10. (New) Steam iron according to claim 3  
characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact  
with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).

11. (New) Steam iron according to claim 2  
characterized in that the skirt of the iron constitutes the  
walls of the steam chamber (3).

12. (New) Steam iron according to claim 11  
characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact  
with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).

13. (New) Steam iron according to claim 2  
characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact  
with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).

14. (New) Steam iron according to claim 1  
characterized in that the skirt of the iron constitutes the  
walls of the steam chamber (3).

15. (New) Steam iron according to claim 12 characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).

16. (New) Steam iron according to claim 1 characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).